

## PANHANDLE HEALTH DISTRICT

PRESENTS

# Pandemic Flu Particulars

Tips to help communities prepare for, survive and recover from pandemic flu and other disasters

**Preparing your business to survive a pandemic flu** can be overwhelming unless you focus on one step at a time. Complete a step, move to the next and when you're finished with your Continuity of Operations Plan, you'll have a well-thought out strategy to help your business survive nearly any type of emergency.

Several assumptions are reasonable with pandemic flu: susceptibility is universal; workforce absenteeism may reach as high as 40 percent; health authorities may implement isolation and quarantine to control spread; and schools and day-care for all ages may be closed.

So, how does your business or agency keep operating? The Virginia Department of Emergency Management recommends starting with Alternate Work Arrangements.

- List the work functions that can be performed at home or at a site other than work.
- List the equipment those functions require and any remote access requirements they have.
- List staff trained and equipped to work remotely.
- If you have more than one location, decide an order in which to close them temporarily if consolidation becomes necessary due to high absenteeism.
- Decide how to notify employees, customers and vendors of your closures and how to redirect them to the open sites.
- Plan several alternative work schedules based on varying degrees of worker absenteeism.
- Identify vendors that provide support for essential services and list alternates in case they can't deliver.

Visit [www.vaemergency.com](http://www.vaemergency.com) for more information.

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